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SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the State of Illinois learned with regret of the death of Thomas J. Riley Jr. of Joliet on Friday, September 8, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Riley and his wife, Brenda, moved to Joliet in 1969, when they were married; and

WHEREAS, He dedicated himself to helping veterans after serving in the U.S. Army during the Korean War; he became a member of American Legion Post 935 in Manhattan, his hometown; even in retirement, he continued to go to his hometown for meals, to visit friends, and to volunteer; and

WHEREAS, He served in various leadership roles as a member of the Will County American Legion post; he was his post's squad leader for the honor guard, its chaplain, and a volunteer bus driver, taking veterans from Joliet to a Maywood hospital; he also recruited youngsters to participate in an American Legion program about government; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Riley volunteered for honor guard squads at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood; he was among a handful of original volunteers still serving there, where he recorded 800 volunteer hours; and

WHEREAS, He was a member of the Will County Veterans Assistance Commission, an election judge, a volunteer firefighter in Manhattan, and a youth baseball coach; he was the grand marshal for the parade at Manhattan's Irish Fest in 2005; he was an avid fan of the Cubs and Notre Dame; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of

1 Thomas J. Riley Jr., and we extend our sincere condolences to  
2 his family, his friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be  
3 it further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
5 presented to his family as an expression of our deepest  
6 sympathy.